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NARRATIVES FROM THE WAR

IN CHARGE OF

ELISABETH ROBINSON SCOVIL

Josephine M. Gordon, Massachusetts General Hospital, who went to the front with the Canadian Red Cross, is nursing in a large hospital in Malta. She writes that supplies often run low. One reason is that the patients are changed so often. The saline solution is made from the Mediterranean Sea water. Cyanide of mercury, peroxide of hydrogen, iodine and boric acid are largely used in dressing wounds. Miss Gordon says that one patient has so many wounds he is daily put in a tub of antiseptic solution. "He is very brave about it." The Canadian Red Cross nurses sign for one year's service or as long as needed. Nearly all of them are in Europe. Some are in Egypt. They are paid \$20 a month, and all expenses. The work of Canadian nurses on military service is said to be marked by great efficiency. They show a quick grasp of their duties, and unusual capacity and initiative. Many of them were trained in American hospitals.

Fighting has been going on in the region where archaeologists claim that the Garden of Eden was situated. It lay between Annah and Hitt, on the upper Euphrates, and has been the scene of battles between the British and Turks. The Lake of Gennesaret, or Sea of Galilee, near Nazareth, is in the war zone. The hills around Nazareth are fortified by the Turks, and the ruins of Capernaum are threatened by mines and air bombs. The village of Gaza, where Samson pulled down the pillars of the temple, and Hebron, where Abraham was buried, are in the path of the retreating Turk.

Girls in uniform take tickets at the railway stations in London, act as conductors on tram cars, and perform as many services previously done by men as possible, thus setting men free to join the army. Even old men wear uniforms, with a red brassard around the arm, showing they are members of the Home Defense corps.

The protective devices which nature has used to conceal birds and animals from the observation of their enemies, are being imitated by the military authorities for the advantage of soldiers in the field. The Khaki uniform is copied from the color of the coat worn by many wild things. Nature neutralizes the shadows. It is suggested that

the soldier's cap should be black, while the under projecting surface above the band should be snow-white. Soot and pipe clay could be used in an emergency. Tents and guns are painted in patches of brilliant color to blend more effectively with the landscape.

Ernest Lissauer, the author of the German Hymn of Hate, explains that it was written as the result of a passionate impulse during the first weeks of the war. He says it was not intended for the young and advises against its publication in school books.

It is announced from Paris that Dr. Alexis Carrel, of the Rockefeller Institute of Medical Research, and Dr. Henry Dakin, of the Lister Institute, have discovered what is thought to be an ideal antiseptic. The experiments were made at the Compeigne Military Hospital. Carbonate of lime, and boric acid are added to the hypochlorite of lime, thus rendering it harmless to the tissues, and making it stable. It is said to make infection of wounds impossible.

Queen Amilie, the former queen of Portugal, is now nursing wounded soldiers in a London hospital.

The population of the world is estimated at between sixteen and seventeen hundred million. Of this over 963 million, or more than half, are now at war, in that they are subjects of or under the protection of states engaged in hostilities. Of this total, 421 million are British subjects or are under British protection.

A report from a base hospital in France says:

We have room for 20,000 patients, all under cover. We have had among the wounded those burned with liquid fire. The hospital tents are large, luxurious Indian marquees. In our unit we have 1050 patients, 40 doctors, and 75 nurses.

British troops have been provided with gas helmets, as a protection against gas attacks. Steel helmets, as a defense against shrapnel, and metal armor, covering the abdomen, are also used in the armies of the allies.

Convalescents in the Canadian military hospitals in France wear a blue uniform and bright scarlet tie. The wounded who can walk after their wounds are dressed, have blue dressing gowns. Each soldier has a "comfort bag," sent from Canada, to hang at the head of his bed, and in this he keeps his few treasures.

A cross with the inscription, "James F. Donnelly, staff physician, New York City, U. S. A.," has been placed on the grave of Dr. Donnelly, who died of typhus fever while trying to conquer this scourge in Serbia.